

The quiet erosion of trust in modern civilisation

If there is one human value most **at risk** in our time, it is not **compassion** or tolerance — it is trust. Nations distrust one another, religions question each other's motives, citizens doubt their Governments, and individuals **wrestle** with self-doubt. **The human story**, once bound by **mutual** faith, **is** now **fraying** at its most **delicate thread**. This is not **merely** a political or technological crisis — it is an **existential** one. And like all existential crises, it is entirely man-made. It **stems from** the very identities — national, religious, and personal — that were meant to unite humanity but now divide it. Modern politics wears **nationalism** as a badge of pride. "**America First**," "**India First**" — these slogans, once considered **narrow**, **are** now celebrated as **patriotism**. Citizens **applaud** when leaders claim their nation's interests **override** all else, even though such exclusivity pushes the world's collective good to the margins. **Nationalism** in this **absolutist** form **is** a **paradox**: it calls itself pride but **thrives on** fear — fear of the other, of decline, of being left behind. And where fear **prevails**, trust **perishes**.

The idea of one humanity **loses** moral force, replaced by self-interest as the new global ethic. **Religion**, too, once humanity's deepest well of meaning, **has** lost its **contemplative** heart. Faith today is often **inherited**, not realised; **professed** loudly, not practised quietly. The same religion now **signifies** surrender for some and superiority for others. When faith goes **unexamined**, it becomes **brittle** — and brittle faith is easily **weaponised**.

The spiritual **essence** that could have restored trust **has** been **eclipsed** by religion's political expression. The more **vocally** we declare our gods, the less **intimately** we seem to know them. **Leadership**, the living **embodiment** of collective **psyche**, **has** also become **theatre**. In an age ruled by algorithms and **applause**, **substance yields to spectacle**. **Conviction** bends before convenience; image **outshines** integrity. Power has become the new measure of worth. Yet history is clear — where power **concentrates**, trust **dissipates**. Across democracies and **dictatorships alike**, the stronger the **fist**, the weaker the bond. **Power** without character **corrodes** the moral soil on which civilisation stands. Now artificial intelligence adds another layer to this crisis.

As we **entrust** machines with decisions that shape lives, the question arises — can we trust the humans programming them? The danger is not that AI will **outthink** us but that it will **replicate** our **flaws** — our **prejudice**, **haste**, and emotional **emptiness**. Rebuilding trust is not a political project but a personal one. No **summit** can **legislate** faith in one another. The true **restoration** begins within. **Meditation** — quiet, **watchful** awareness — **is** no longer a spiritual luxury but a civilisational necessity. In stillness, thought loses its sharp edges, and intelligence arises — **untainted** by comparison or fear. Such a mind trusts naturally because it **perceives** unity **beneath** difference. If humanity is to escape this age of mistrust, it must return to the only **incorruptible** source of trust: inner **consciousness**. Laws can regulate behaviour and treaties can **defer** conflict—but only a quiet mind can restore faith.

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.

[Practice Exercise]

Vocabulary

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Erosion (noun) – gradual destruction, weakening, deterioration, decay, decline
क्षरण</p> <p>2. At risk (phrase) – in danger, threatened, vulnerable, endangered, imperiled खतरे में</p> <p>3. Compassion (noun) – empathy, sympathy, kindness, understanding, humanity करुणा</p> <p>4. Wrestle (verb) – struggle, grapple, fight, contend, battle संघर्ष करना</p> <p>5. Mutual (adjective) – shared, common, reciprocal, joint, collective आपसी</p> <p>6. Fray (verb) – unravel, wear thin, become strained, weaken, deteriorate क्षीण होना</p> <p>7. Delicate (adjective) – fragile, fine, sensitive, subtle, precarious नाजुक</p> <p>8. Thread (noun) – a theme or characteristic running throughout a situation विचार-सूत्र/विचारों, कथा के अंशों आदि के बीच संबंध</p> <p>9. Merely (adverb) – only, just, simply, purely, solely केवल</p> <p>10. Existential (adjective) – relating to existence, fundamental, survival-related, profound अस्तित्वगत</p> <p>11. Stem (from) (verb) – originate, arise, spring, derive, result उत्पन्न होना</p> | <p>12. Nationalism (noun) – extreme patriotism, chauvinism, jingoism, ultranationalism
राष्ट्रवाद</p> <p>13. Narrow (adjective) – limited, restricted, parochial, insular, small-minded संकीर्ण</p> <p>14. Patriotism (noun) – love of one's country, national loyalty, devotion to one's nation
देशभक्ति</p> <p>15. Applaud (verb) – praise, cheer, acclaim, commend, approve सराहना करना</p> <p>16. Override (verb) – overrule, supersede, outweigh, take precedence over, dominate
अधिक्रमित करना</p> <p>17. Absolutist (adjective) – uncompromising, dictatorial, authoritarian, dogmatic, rigid
निरंकुश</p> <p>18. Paradox (noun) – contradiction, inconsistency, irony, puzzle, anomaly
विरोधाभास</p> <p>19. Thrive (on) (verb) – flourish, prosper, grow, feed on, revel in फलना-फूलना</p> <p>20. Prevail (verb) – dominate, predominate, win, triumph, hold sway प्रबल होना</p> <p>21. Perish (verb) – die, vanish, disappear, cease to exist, become extinct नष्ट होना</p> |
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22. **Contemplative** (adjective) – thoughtful, reflective, meditative, introspective, pensive चिंतनशील
23. **Inherit** (verb) – receive, adopt, acquire, take over, come into विरासत में पाना
24. **Profess** (verb) – declare, claim, affirm, assert, announce घोषणा करना
25. **Signify** (verb) – mean, represent, denote, indicate, symbolize अर्थ रखना
26. **Unexamined** (adjective) – unscrutinized, unconsidered, unchallenged, taken for granted अविचारित
27. **Brittle** (adjective) – fragile, breakable, frail, weak, delicate भंगुर
28. **Weaponise** (verb) – to use as a weapon, exploit, turn into a tool of conflict हथियार बनाना
29. **Eclipse** (verb) – overshadow, surpass, outshine, dwarf, obscure ग्रहण लगाना
30. **Vocally** (adverb) – loudly, outspokenly, stridently, vehemently, clamorously मुखर रूप से
31. **Intimately** (adverb) – closely, deeply, personally, innately, thoroughly अंतरंगतापूर्वक
32. **Embodiment** (noun) – personification, incarnation, manifestation, symbol, epitome अवतार
33. **Psyche** (noun) – mind, soul, spirit, inner self, mentality मानसिकता
34. **Theatre** (noun) – drama, show, spectacle, performance, display दिखावा
35. **Applause** (noun) – approval, acclaim, praise, plaudits, cheers तालियाँ
36. **Substance** (noun) – essence, core, content, significance, meaning सार
37. **Yield** (to) (verb) – surrender, give in, capitulate, submit, succumb झुक जाना
38. **Spectacle** (noun) – display, show, extravaganza, performance, scene तमाशा
39. **Conviction** (noun) – belief, principle, certainty, faith, creed दृढ़ विश्वास
40. **Outshine** (verb) – surpass, eclipse, excel, overshadow, outclass मात करना
41. **Concentrate** (verb) – centralize, amass, gather, consolidate, accumulate केंद्रित करना
42. **Dissipate** (verb) – disappear, vanish, scatter, evaporate, dissolve विलीन होना
43. **Dictatorship** (noun) – autocracy, tyranny, despotism, authoritarianism, totalitarianism तानाशाही
44. **Alike** (preposition) – similarly, in the same way, equally, uniformly समान रूप से

45. **Fist** (noun) – clenched hand, symbol of force, iron grip, power, control मुट्ठी
46. **Corrode** (verb) – erode, wear away, deteriorate, weaken, undermine जंग लगना
47. **Entrust** (verb) – assign, delegate, charge, hand over, commit सौंपना
48. **Outthink** (verb) – outsmart, outmanoeuvre, outwit, surpass in thinking, be cleverer चतुराई में मात देना
49. **Replicate** (verb) – copy, reproduce, imitate, duplicate, mimic नकल करना
50. **Flaw** (noun) – fault, defect, weakness, imperfection, shortcoming दोष
51. **Prejudice** (noun) – bias, preconception, partiality, discrimination, bigotry पूर्वाग्रह
52. **Haste** (noun) – rush, hurry, impatience, recklessness, precipitateness जल्दबाजी
53. **Emptiness** (noun) – void, hollowness, meaninglessness, vacuum, barrenness शून्यता
54. **Summit** (noun) – meeting, conference, talks, negotiation, assembly शिखर सम्मेलन
55. **Legislate** (verb) – make laws, enact, pass laws, decree, ordain कानून बनाना
56. **Restoration** (noun) – renewal, revival, reinstatement, recovery, rehabilitation बहाली
57. **Watchful** (adjective) – vigilant, alert, observant, attentive, keen सतर्क
58. **Untainted** (adjective) – pure, uncorrupted, unspoiled, pristine, immaculate अदूषित
59. **Perceive** (verb) – see, recognize, understand, discern, apprehend अनुभव करना
60. **Beneath** (preposition) – under, below, underlying, underneath, at the heart of नीचे
61. **Incorruptible** (adjective) – honest, upright, moral, principled, unbribeable ईमानदार
62. **Consciousness** (noun) – awareness, mind, perception, sentience, realization चेतना
63. **Defer** (verb) – postpone, delay, put off, suspend, adjourn टालना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Core Argument:** The editorial identifies *trust* as the most endangered human value in modern times, surpassing even compassion or tolerance.
2. **Global Distrust:** Nations, religions, and individuals increasingly distrust each other, weakening the very foundation of human connection.
3. **Existential Crisis:** The erosion of trust is not political or technological—it is an *existential crisis* created by humans themselves.
4. **Identity and Division:** The same identities meant to unite humanity—national, religious, and personal—now divide it.
5. **Rise of Nationalism:** Modern politics glorifies nationalism through slogans like “America First” or “India First,” prioritizing narrow interests over collective global welfare.
6. **Fear Behind Nationalism:** Absolutist nationalism thrives on fear—fear of the “other,” of decline, and of being left behind—and wherever fear dominates, trust dies.
7. **Decline of Human Unity:** The moral idea of “one humanity” is fading, replaced by self-interest as the new guiding principle of nations.
8. **Transformation of Religion:** Religion, once a source of spiritual meaning, has become a tool for identity and power rather than introspection and compassion.
9. **Weaponisation of Faith:** Modern faith, often unexamined and superficial, turns brittle and easily weaponised for political and social division.
10. **Leadership as Theatre:** Leadership has become performative—focused on image, convenience, and applause rather than integrity and conviction.
11. **Power Corrupts Trust:** Concentration of power—whether in democracies or dictatorships—inevitably weakens trust and corrodes civilisation’s moral base.
12. **AI and the New Threat:** Artificial Intelligence deepens the crisis, as it risks amplifying human biases and emotional emptiness rather than transcending them.
13. **Limits of Political Solutions:** Trust cannot be rebuilt through policies, summits, or laws; it requires inner moral and psychological renewal.
14. **Role of Meditation:** The author advocates *meditation*—calm self-awareness—as essential for restoring trust and intelligence untainted by fear or comparison.
15. **Restoration Through Inner Consciousness:** The true solution lies within; only a *quiet, conscious mind* can restore genuine trust and sustain human civilisation.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial Page]

1. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The rise of nationalism and its global effects
 - B. The loss of human trust in the modern age and the need to rebuild it through inner consciousness
 - C. The dangers of artificial intelligence to human existence
 - D. The political misuse of religion in society
2. **What type of adjective is the word “modern” in the phrase “modern civilisation” from the passage?**
 - A. Quantitative Adjective
 - B. Demonstrative Adjective
 - C. Descriptive (Qualitative) Adjective
 - D. Possessive Adjective
3. **Identify the sentence with the correct subject–verb agreement from the passage.**
 - A. Nations distrusts one another.
 - B. Religion, too, once humanity’s deepest well of meaning, has lost its contemplative heart.
 - C. Citizens doubts their Governments.
 - D. Individuals wrestles with self-doubt.
4. **According to the passage, what is identified as the root cause of the present existential crisis of trust in modern civilisation?**
 - A. The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence and technology
 - B. The growing materialism and loss of spiritual awareness
 - C. The distortion of human identities such as nationalism and religion
 - D. The failure of global political institutions to maintain peace
5. **What, according to the author, is presented as the only sustainable path to restoring trust in humanity?**
 - A. Implementing stricter global laws and treaties to ensure peace
 - B. Promoting interfaith dialogue and tolerance among religions
 - C. Reviving nationalism with moral leadership and social reforms
 - D. Cultivating inner awareness and meditative consciousness
6. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word “Retort.”**
 - A. Praise
 - B. Reply sharply
 - C. Avoid
 - D. Agree
7. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
 - A. Thus, children in India have the unique opportunity to receive a world-class education.
 - B. Since ancient times, India has been known for its great educational system.
 - C. Today, there are thousands of schools in India, many of which are among the best in the world.
 - D. The country's first university, Nalanda, was founded over 1,000 years ago.
 - A. ABCD
 - B. DCBA

- C. BDCA
D. CBAD
8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
ALTRUISTIC
A. Selfish
B. Serene
C. Outstanding
D. Soft-spoken
9. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.**
The FIFA cup 2022 will be won by France
A. France would win the FIFA cup 2022.
B. France will be winning the FIFA cup 2022.
C. France will win the FIFA cup 2022.
D. France wins the FIFA cup 2022
10. **Select the most appropriate present tense form of the verb to fill in the blank.**
They _____ football every day.
A. play
B. had been playing
C. will play
D. plays
11. **Select the sentence that has a grammatical error.**
A. She usually walks her dog in the park every morning.
B. They play chess together on weekends.
C. The train leaves the station at 8:00 a.m. every day.
D. He don't like spicy food.
12. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required'.**
The prospects of surviving any serious illness are improved if the disease is catching early
A. being caught early
B. caught early
C. No substitution required
D. catch earlier
13. **Select the option that will improve the underlined part of the given sentence. In case no improvement is needed, select 'No improvement required'.**
After all the fuss, the companies has still not reach a consensus.
A. have still not reached
B. have still to reached
C. had still not reach
D. No improvement required
14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
Online shopping refers to purchasing goods available on the world wide web. You have different websites which have a huge _____ of products that you can choose from.
A. appraisal
B. assessment

- C. assignment
D. assortment
15. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Pick the option that gives their correct order.**
A. When we wish to achieve something, we cannot expect success in a moment.
B. It is the same with any great achievement.
C. It took several years to build Rome and bring it to the state of glory.
D. Rome, the greatest city of ancient world was not built in a short time.
A. BACD
B. CDAB
C. ABCD
D. DCBA
16. **Select the correct spelling of the highlighted word in the following sentence.**
The company faced a major **disfuntion** in its system.
A. disfunction
B. disfuntion
C. dysfuntion
D. dysfursion
17. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A person who loves and collects books
A. Booker
B. Bibliophile
C. Bookworm
D. Biographer
18. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word.**
NOTORIOUS
A. famous
B. vicious
C. infamous
D. disgraceful
19. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Ace in the hole
A. To create noisy disturbances so that competitors are unable to work.
B. A major advantage that one keeps hidden until an ideal time.
C. To attempt to do the impossible.
D. To suffer an injury on the lower body
20. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Pervasive."**
A. Transient
B. Rampant
C. Obscure
D. Tangible

Comprehension:

In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Read the passage carefully and select the most appropriate option to fill in each blank.

Every year, we celebrate our nation's _____ (1) _____ of political freedom from British imperialism and reiterate our loyalty to the ideals that our founding fathers fought for. In that sense, August 15 stands as a strong reminder of the long journey that shaped our nation: a _____ (2) _____ struggle that united millions from diverse social, linguistic and ethnic backgrounds for a set of values and principles, including democracy, secularism, harmony and social progress. Celebrating Independence Day thus _____ (3) _____ an introspection of how we, as a nation, _____ (4) _____ evolved over the years, and how the _____ (5) _____ ideals of this constitutional republic have fared.

21. **Q. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
A. deficiency
B. pusillanimous
C. attainment
D. privation
22. **Q. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
A. heroic
B. craven
C. timorous
D. grave
23. **Q. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
A. entail
B. entailing
C. entails
D. entailed
24. **Q. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
A. Have
B. Has
C. Was
D. Were
25. **Q. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
A. extraneous
B. courteous
C. frivolous
D. essential

Answers

1. B 2. C 3. B 4. C 5. D 6. B 7. C 8. A 9. C 10. A 11. D 12. B
 13. A 14. D 15. D 16. A 17. B 18. A 19. B 20. B 21. C 22. A 23. C 24. A
 25. D

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) The loss of human trust in the modern age and the need to rebuild it through inner consciousness
 The passage primarily revolves around the erosion of trust — among nations, religions, leaders, and individuals — and concludes that the solution lies in personal spiritual renewal through meditation and inner awareness. This idea forms the unifying thread of the entire passage.
 - A: Incorrect because nationalism is only one example of how trust erodes, not the central focus.
 - C: Incorrect because AI is mentioned briefly as an extension of the trust crisis, not the main issue.
 - D: Incorrect because the passage uses religion as a supporting argument in the broader discussion on the decline of trust, not as the main subject.
2. C) **Descriptive (Qualitative) Adjective**
 The word “modern” describes the quality or nature of the noun “civilisation” — specifically, it tells what kind of civilisation it is. Hence, it is a descriptive (qualitative) adjective.
 - Quantitative Adjective: Refers to how much or how many (e.g., some, many, few). “Modern” does not show quantity.
 - Demonstrative Adjective: Points out which one (e.g., this, that, those). “Modern” doesn’t point; it describes.
 - Possessive Adjective: Shows ownership (e.g., my, their, his). “Modern” expresses quality, not possession.
3. B) **Religion, too, once humanity’s deepest well of meaning, has lost its contemplative heart.**
 In Option B, the singular subject “Religion” correctly agrees with the singular verb “has lost.”
 A. Nations distrusts one another: ❌ Nations is plural, so verb should be “distrust”, not “distrusts.”
 C. Citizens doubts their Governments: ❌ Citizens is plural; correct verb form is “doubt.”
 D. Individuals wrestles with self-doubt: ❌ Individuals is plural; verb should be “wrestle.”
4. C) The distortion of human identities such as nationalism and religion
 The passage explicitly states that the crisis “stems from the very identities — national, religious, and personal — that were meant to unite humanity but now divide it.” This identifies distorted human identity as the root cause of mistrust and division.
 - AI is mentioned later as an added layer to the crisis, not the primary cause.
 - The passage speaks of spiritual decline, but as a consequence of identity distortion, not the root cause.
 - Political institutions’ failure is implied but not stated as the fundamental reason; the passage stresses existential, not institutional, origins.
5. D) **Cultivating inner awareness and meditative consciousness**

The author concludes that “the true restoration begins within” and that “only a quiet mind can restore faith.” Hence, inner awareness and meditation are described as the civilisational necessity and the only incorruptible source of trust.

- The passage dismisses external measures, stating “No summit can legislate faith in one another.”
- Though interfaith harmony is desirable, the text emphasizes personal consciousness, not religious negotiation.
- Nationalism is critiqued as one of the main causes of mistrust, so reviving it contradicts the author’s argument.

6. B) Reply sharply

Retort (verb) – To reply quickly or sharply; to counter or respond with wit. कटु उत्तर देना

Synonym: Reply sharply – To respond in a biting or defensive tone. तीखे शब्दों में उत्तर देना

- **Praise** – To express admiration. प्रशंसा करना
- **Avoid** – To keep away from. बचना
- **Agree** – To have the same opinion. सहमत होना

7. C) BDCA

B introduces the topic by stating that India has been known for its great educational system since ancient times. This is the most logical starting point as it sets the historical context.

D follows B naturally because it provides a specific example (Nalanda University) to support the claim made in B about India's ancient educational system.

C shifts to the present scenario, mentioning the current state of education in India (thousands of schools, many among the best in the world). This builds on the historical foundation laid by B and D.

A concludes the paragraph by summarizing the result or outcome of the points made earlier: children in India have the opportunity to receive a world-class education.

In Hindi:

- B paragraph की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह भारत की शिक्षा प्रणाली के ऐतिहासिक महत्व को introduce करता है।
- D, B के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह एक विशिष्ट उदाहरण (नालंदा विश्वविद्यालय) देकर B के दावे को support करता है।
- C, D के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह वर्तमान समय में भारत की शिक्षा प्रणाली (हजारों स्कूल, दुनिया के बेहतरीन स्कूल) का वर्णन करता है, जो ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि पर आधारित है।
- A paragraph को समाप्त करता है क्योंकि यह निष्कर्ष देता है कि भारत के बच्चों को विश्वस्तरीय शिक्षा प्राप्त करने का अवसर मिलता है।

8. A) **Altruistic** (adjective) – Showing a disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others; unselfish, charitable, benevolent. निःस्वार्थ

Antonym: **Selfish** (adjective) – Lacking consideration for others; concerned chiefly with one's own personal profit or pleasure, self-centered, egotistical. स्वार्थी

- **Serene** (adjective) – Calm, peaceful, and untroubled; tranquil. शांत
- **Outstanding** (adjective) – Exceptionally good, prominent, remarkable. उत्कृष्ट

- **Soft-spoken** (adjective) – Speaking or said with a gentle, mild voice. कोमल भाषी

9. C) **France will win the FIFA cup 2022**

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य का Subject Active वाक्य का Object बन जाता है। Verb को Passive से Active में बदलते समय सही Tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Passive वाक्य में "The FIFA cup 2022" Subject है, "will be won" Verb (Future Simple Passive) है और "by France" Agent है। Active में बदलने पर Subject "France" बन गया है, Verb को "will win" (Future Simple Active) में बदला गया है और Object "The FIFA cup 2022" हो गया है।

- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the subject of the passive sentence becomes the object of the active sentence. The verb is transformed from the passive form to the active form, ensuring correct tense usage. In the given passive sentence, "The FIFA cup 2022" (Subject), "will be won" (Passive Verb in Future Simple), and "by France" (Agent) are transformed into "France" (Subject), "will win" (Active Verb in Future Simple), and "The FIFA cup 2022" (Object).

10. A) **Play** का use होगा क्योंकि यह sentence present simple tense में है, जो नियमित या आदतन क्रियाओं को व्यक्त करता है। sentence में 'every day' दिया गया है, जो आदत को दर्शाता है, इसलिए 'play' सही विकल्प है

- 'Play' will be used because this sentence is in the present simple tense, which expresses habitual or regular actions. The phrase "every day" indicates a habitual activity, so 'play' is the correct choice.

11. D) **don't** के बदले 'doesn't' का use होगा क्योंकि Subject 'He' तीसरे व्यक्ति (Third Person Singular) का Pronoun है और इसके साथ Present Simple Tense में Verb की Third Person Singular form लगती है। 'do' की Third Person Singular form 'does' होती है। उदाहरण के लिए— He doesn't like spicy food.

- 'doesn't' will be used instead of 'don't' because the subject 'He' is a Third Person Singular Pronoun, and in Present Simple Tense, the verb agrees with the Third Person Singular subject. The correct auxiliary verb for 'He' is 'does.' For example— He doesn't like spicy food.

12. B) **caught early** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Passive Voice में Past Participle का प्रयोग होता है और 'is' के बाद Verb का Past Participle form आना चाहिए; जैसे— The thief was caught by the police.

- 'caught early' will be used instead of 'is catching early' because in Passive Voice, the Past Participle of the verb is used, and after 'is', the verb should be in its Past Participle form; Like— The thief was caught by the police

13. A) **has still not reach** के बदले '**have still not reached**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Subject 'companies' Plural है अतः Verb 'have' का प्रयोग होगा और क्योंकि यह Present Perfect Tense का वाक्य है, Verb का Third form 'reached' का प्रयोग होगा; जैसे— The students have not completed their homework.

- 'have still not reached' will be used instead of 'has still not reach' because the subject 'companies' is Plural so the verb 'have' will be used, and since it is a sentence in the Present Perfect Tense, the Third form of the verb 'reached' will be used; Like— The students have not completed their homework

14. D) **Assortment**' का use होगा क्योंकि "assortment" का अर्थ होता है विभिन्न प्रकार की वस्तुओं का संग्रह। sentence में यह उल्लेख किया गया है कि वेबसाइटों पर विभिन्न उत्पाद उपलब्ध हैं, इसलिए 'assortment' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Appraisal' का अर्थ है मूल्यांकन, 'Assessment' का अर्थ है आकलन, और 'Assignment' का अर्थ है कार्यभार या कार्य सौंपना, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

- 'D. Assortment' will be used because it means a collection of various types of items. The sentence talks about different products being available on websites, making 'assortment' the appropriate choice. Whereas, 'Appraisal' means evaluation, 'Assessment' means analysis, and 'Assignment' refers to a task or duty, which do not fit in this context.

15. D) **DCBA**

D starts the sentence with the subject "Rome", introducing the main topic (the city) and its key detail: it was not built quickly.

C follows D because it logically expands on the time mentioned in D ("short time") by specifying how long it actually took ("several years"). This creates a cause-effect link.

B comes after C as it generalizes the idea with "It is the same with any great achievement", connecting Rome's example (C/D) to a universal truth.

A concludes by applying the lesson to our lives ("when we wish to achieve something"), reinforcing the moral drawn from Rome's story.

In Hindi:

- D sentence की शुरुआत करता है, क्योंकि यह subject "Rome" को introduce करता है और उसकी key detail बताता है: शहर जल्दी नहीं बना था।
- C, D के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह D में mentioned time ("short time") को expand करता है और बताता है वास्तव में कितने साल लगे ("several years")। यह cause-effect relationship बनाता है।
- B, C के बाद fit होता है क्योंकि यह Rome के example को generalize करता है ("किसी भी great achievement के साथ ऐसा ही होता है"), जो D/C की detail को universal truth से जोड़ता है।
- A conclusion देता है, इस lesson को हमारे lives से connect करके ("जब हम कुछ achieve करना चाहते हैं") और Rome की story से moral निकालता है।

16. A) The correct spelling of 'disfuntion' is 'dysfunction' which means "impaired or abnormal functioning" विकार।

17. B) **Bibliophile** (noun) – A person who loves and collects books पुस्तक प्रेमी

- **Booker** (noun) – This term does not specifically refer to a book lover or collector. दर्ज करना
- **Bookworm** (noun) – A person who enjoys reading and spends much time doing it, but not necessarily collecting books. पुस्तक कीड़ा
- **Biographer** (noun) – A person who writes a biography or biographies. जीवनी लेखक

18. A) **NOTORIOUS** (adjective) – Famous or well known, typically for some bad quality or deed. कुख्यात

Antonym: **Famous** (adjective) – Known about by many people; renowned. प्रसिद्ध

- **Vicious** (adjective) – Deliberately cruel or violent; malevolent. क्रूर
- **Infamous** (adjective) – Well known for some bad quality or deed; having a bad reputation. कुख्यात (Note: Infamous and NOTORIOUS are synonyms)
- **Disgraceful** (adjective) – Shockingly unacceptable; shameful. अपमानजनक

19. B) **Ace in the hole** (idiom) – A major advantage that one keeps hidden until an ideal time एक प्रमुख लाभ जिसे कोई एक आदर्श समय तक छिपाकर रखता है।

20. B) **Pervasive** (adjective) – Existing or spreading widely throughout an area or group; widespread, prevalent, ubiquitous. व्यापक

Synonym: **Rampant** (adjective) – Flourishing or spreading unchecked; widespread or uncontrolled. फैलता हुआ / अनियंत्रित

- **Transient** (adjective) – Lasting only for a short time. अस्थायी
- **Obscure** (adjective) – Not well known or easily understood. अस्पष्ट
- **Tangible** (adjective) – Perceptible by touch. मूर्त

21. C) '**Attainment**' का use होगा क्योंकि "attainment" का अर्थ होता है किसी लक्ष्य या उपलब्धि को प्राप्त करना। passage में mention किया गया है कि हम ब्रिटिश साम्राज्यवाद से राजनीतिक स्वतंत्रता की प्राप्ति का जश्न मनाते हैं, इसलिए 'attainment' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Deficiency' का अर्थ है कमी, 'Pusillanimous' का अर्थ है कायर, और 'Privation' का अर्थ है अभाव, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- '**Attainment**' will be used because it means achieving a goal or milestone. The passage mentions celebrating political freedom from British imperialism, making 'attainment' fitting here. Whereas, 'Deficiency' means lack, 'Pusillanimous' means cowardly, and 'Privation' means deprivation, which don't fit in this context.

22. A) **heroic** का use होगा क्योंकि "heroic" का अर्थ होता है वीरतापूर्ण या साहसिक। passage में mention किया गया है कि भारत की स्वतंत्रता के लिए एक संघर्ष हुआ जिसने विभिन्न पृष्ठभूमियों के लोगों को एकजुट किया, इसलिए 'heroic' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'craven' का अर्थ है कायर, 'timorous' का अर्थ है डरपोक, और 'grave' का अर्थ है गंभीर, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- '**heroic**' will be used because it means brave or courageous. The passage mentions a struggle for India's independence that united people from diverse backgrounds, making 'heroic' fitting here. Whereas, 'craven' means cowardly, 'timorous' means fearful, and 'grave' means serious, which don't fit in this context.

23. C) '**Entails**' का use होगा क्योंकि "entails" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को आवश्यक बनाना या शामिल करना। यहाँ sentence में mention किया गया है कि स्वतंत्रता दिवस मनाना एक आत्मनिरीक्षण (introspection) को आवश्यक बनाता है, इसलिए 'entails' यहाँ सही है। यह present tense में है क्योंकि यह एक सामान्य सत्य (general truth) को दर्शाता है।

- '**Entails**' will be used because it means to involve something as a necessary part. The sentence states that celebrating Independence Day involves introspection, making 'entails' correct here. It is in the present tense because it expresses a general truth 'Entail' (A): Grammatically incorrect because the subject ("Celebrating Independence Day") is singular and requires a singular verb ('entails').

'Entailing' (B): Incorrect because it is a participle form and cannot act as the main verb in this sentence.

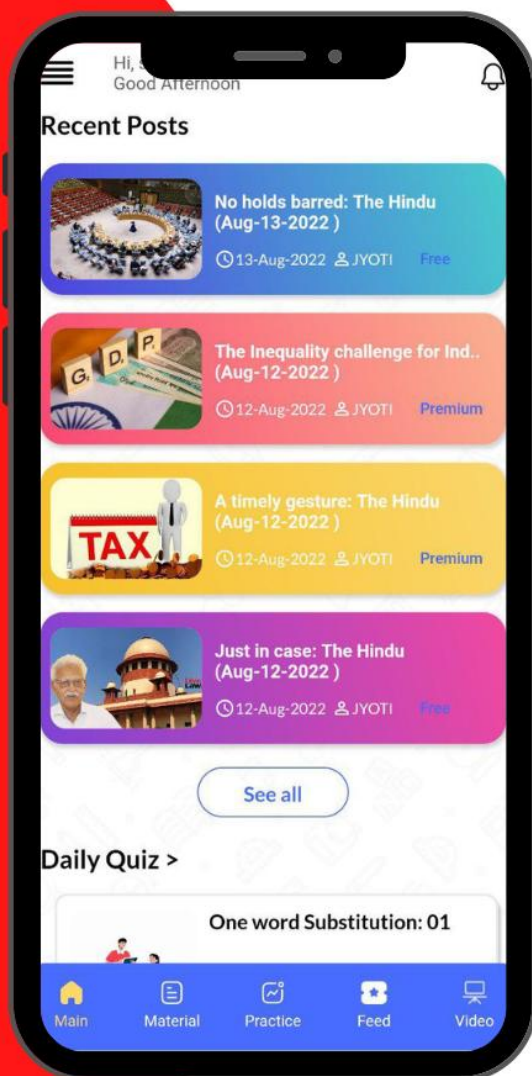
'Entailed' (D): Incorrect because the context is in the present tense, not past.

24. A) '**Have**' का use होगा क्योंकि "have" का प्रयोग plural subject ("we, as a nation") के साथ present perfect tense में किया जाता है। यहाँ बात राष्ट्र के विकास की हो रही है जो एक सतत प्रक्रिया है, इसलिए present perfect tense सही है। जबकि 'Has' singular subject के साथ प्रयोग होता है, 'Were' past continuous tense में और 'Was' singular past tense में, जो इस context में गलत हैं।

- '**Have**' will be used because it is used with plural subject ("we, as a nation") in present perfect tense. Here, the discussion is about the nation's evolution, which is an ongoing process, so present perfect tense is correct. Whereas, 'Has' is used with singular subjects, 'Were' in past continuous tense, and 'Was' in singular past tense, which are incorrect in this context.

25. D) '**Essential**' का use होगा क्योंकि "essential" का अर्थ होता है आवश्यक या मूलभूत। passage में mention किया गया है कि हमें संवैधानिक गणराज्य के मूलभूत आदर्शों (जैसे लोकतंत्र, धर्मनिरपेक्षता) पर विचार करना है, इसलिए 'essential' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Extraneous' का अर्थ है बाहरी/अप्रासंगिक, 'Courteous' का अर्थ है शिष्ट, और 'Frivolous' का अर्थ है तुच्छ, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

- '**Essential**' will be used because it means fundamental or necessary. The passage mentions reflecting on the core ideals (e.g., democracy, secularism) of the constitutional republic, making 'essential' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Extraneous' means irrelevant, 'Courteous' means polite, and 'Frivolous' means trivial, which are unsuitable in this context.



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